

**MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
AUGUST 24, 2020**

A.) OPENING CEREMONIES

CALL TO ORDER

The Work Session Meeting of the Township of Monroe was called to order at approximately 7:00PM by **Cncl. Pres., Joseph P. Marino, III** in the Courtroom of the Municipal Complex, located at 125 Virginia Avenue, Williamstown, New Jersey.

This meeting was advertised pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (*N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 thru 10:4-21*). Adequate notice was placed in the official publications for the Township of Monroe (i.e.: South Jersey Times, Courier Post and The Sentinel of Gloucester County). A copy of that notice is posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Complex and on the Monroe Township website.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Cncl. Miller led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

ROLL CALL OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Cncl. Marvin Dilks		Excused
Cncl. Katherine Falcone	Present	
Cncl. Ronald Garbowski	Present	
Cncl. Cody Miller	Present	
Cncl. Vice-Pres. Patrick O'Reilly	Present	
Cncl. Gregory Wolfe	Present	
Cncl. Pres. Joseph P. Marino, III	Present	
Mayor Richard DiLucia	Present	
Deputy Mayor, Joseph DiLolle	Present	
Solicitor, John Trimble	Present	
Business Administrator, Jill McCrea	Present	
Dir. of Code Enf./Comm. Dev., Ralph Manfredi		Excused
Dir. of Community Affairs, Brandee Derieux	Present	
Dir. of Finance, Lorraine Boyer	Present	
Dir. of Parks & Recreation, Brent Salvadori	Present	
Dir. of Public Safety, Joseph Kurz	Present	
Dir. of Public Works, Nicholas Mercado	Present	
Township Engineer, James Maddonni	Present	
Dir. of Real Estate, Angelina Matese		Excused
Police Chief David Dailey		Excused
Deputy Municipal Clerk, Jennifer Harbison	Present	

PRESENTATIONS – None

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B.) MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

- **R:127-2020** Resolution Certifying That The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey, Has Reviewed The General Comment And Recommendation Section Of The Report Of Audit For The Year 2019

Cncl. Pres. Marino questioned portions of the Findings and Recommendations section of the Audit regarding the outside employment of police officers and how they are paid, as this is the second year that this has been listed on the Audit along with the portion regarding the expenditures void without appropriation. **Director of Finance, Ms. Boyer** advised that she has contacted the Chief of Police to schedule a meeting to discuss and rectify the outside employment of police officers and how they are paid. With regards to the expenditures void without appropriation, Ms. Boyer explained this was mainly to do with the issues with the ambulance last year, where she could not make transfers until November, which created an over-expenditure before a transfer could be made. Ms. Boyer noted, at the next Regular Council Meeting, the Corrective Action Plan will be presented for approval. **Cncl. Pres. Marino** advised that Resolution R:127-2020 will remain on the Regular Council Meeting Agenda for approval.

- Monroe Township Sanitary Landfill Closure Project Bid Award Resolution

Cncl. Pres. Marino explained, Council was preparing to award the Sanitary Landfill Closure Project Bid, however they recently discovered that there is currently only \$117,000.00 in available grant monies, which leaves the project under funded. He noted, the previous Township Engineer had advised Council that there was the potential that the Township could apply and receive 75% of the total project grant if a renewable energy was performed, which is what is currently being done by the Solar Developer. **Cncl. Pres. Marino** questioned if the grant is still viable. **Township Engineer, Mr. Maddonni** advised the grant is still viable and he believes they have everything needed to complete the application process. He explained, during the time that ARH had investigated the grant, a Solar Developer had not been selected, which was a key element in submitting the grant application. **Mr. Maddonni** noted, the grant money is not actually doled out until the Landfill is closed, the Township will have to front the money for the project and be reimbursed from the grant once the Landfill is closed. He explained, if the Township applies for the grant, 75% of the total will be approximately \$750,000.00 and the Township will not receive that money until the Landfill construction is closed and the proper reports are sent to NJDEP. A discussion ensued regarding the capital budget and possible re-appropriations. **Solicitor Trimble** advised, with regards to the awarding of the bid, Council has sixty days from the bid opening to award the bid, however, they can ask for an additional sixty day extension from the vendors to award the bid. **Cncl. Pres. Marino** noted, the Sanitary Landfill Closure Project Bid Award is tabled at this time, the Solicitor's office will reach out to the vendors to ask for an extension and the Director of Finance, Ms. Boyer and the Business Administrator, Ms. McCrea will meet to discuss re-appropriating money for the project. **Cncl. Pres. Marino** polled all members of Council in attendance and all were in agreement.

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B.) MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION (cont'd)

- Governor Murphy's Executive Order #144/Elections – Primary Election Billing

Cncl. Pres. Marino explained that the Municipal Clerk, Aileen Chiselko had asked that this be placed on this evening's agenda to advise the Mayor and Council of the billing for the Primary Election and the amount that was budgeted for the Primary Election. The bill received included the additional printing costs due to Governor Murphy's mandate of a full mail-in-ballot Primary Election and was substantially more than what was budgeted. Several of the neighboring town's Municipal Clerks along with their Business Administrator have signed a letter of support to try to have the State provide additional funding for the Primary Election. Ms. Chiselko would like permission from the Mayor to have the Business Administrator, Jill McCrean sign the support letter along with herself to send along with a copy of the bill with the additional printing costs for the Primary Election to the County Board of Elections and the New Jersey Division of Elections to which the Mayor agreed.

C.) PUBLIC PORTION

Cncl. Miller made a motion to open the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

Michael Mellace, 313 Aberdeen Road wished a Happy Birthday to Mayor DiLucia. Mr. Mellace told Cncl. Miller that although they do not always see eye to eye, he admires Cncl. Miller's spit and vinegar sense of being and wished him well in his future endeavors. He thanked the Administration for recently providing some much needed attention to the Scotland Run Development. Mr. Mellace addressed Council to express his concerns with the roads throughout the Scotland Run Development. He said that it is not about the streets looking pretty, but rather they are a public safety issue. He spoke regarding the accidents that have taken place in the development and how he believes the roadways have greatly contributed to these accidents. He appreciates that the Township has been improving some of the roads, however the roads are in desperate need of repaving and major repair, noting the amount of water retention on the roads. Mr. Mellace stated that himself along with the residents of the Scotland Run Development would like to have Township's Road Plan accessible to them to explain what roads will be repaired and when. A discussion followed regarding the yearly amount budgeted for the roads, the amount that is remaining for this year and the Capital Budget Plan. **Director of Public Works, Nicholas Mercado** advised that surveying has commenced on various streets and he expects that the design perimeters for all of the projects will be completed and out for bid by the end of September or the beginning of October. He noted, he has submitted the list of roads to Administration for review and is waiting for their approval before he publicizes the list. **Mayor DiLucia** addressed Mr. Mellace's concerns regarding the road conditions in the Scotland Run Development. He explained that the Township is going to take care of as many streets throughout the Township that they can with the money that has been allocated, however there is not enough money to repair all of the streets. **Cncl. Miller** asked Mr. Mercado if the Township is following the 5 Year Road Program that was previously adopted. Mr. Mercado confirmed that

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C.) PUBLIC PORTION (cont'd)

the majority of the plan is being followed, as the plan is updated frequently as roads deteriorate. **Cncl. Miller** suggested, as a Government in the future they need to be more transparent with the plan. A discussion ensued regarding how and why the road list was created. Mr. Mellace requested that the roads that are identified as safety issues, be addressed. **Cncl. Pres. Marino** suggested that the Director of Public Safety, Mr. Kurz, Sgt. Burton from Traffic and Mr. Mercado visit the development to assess the public safety issues.

Sherrie Kennedy, 375 Bryn Mawr Drive questioned the job description of the Township's Road Department. She asked if the Road Department could repair some of the roads, without going on bids. **Cncl. Pres. Marino** advised, the Township's Road Department perform emergency repairs such as crack filling, potholes, inlets, manhole castings and other repairs, however when it comes to paving roads, that is not something the Road Department handles. He notes, it has been over a decade since the Township has paved roads internally. **Director of Public Works, Mr. Mercado** advised that there is a dedicated crew within the Road Department that go out performing patches on the various roads throughout the Township and will continue to do so along with street sweeping.

With no one else wishing to speak, **Cncl. Wolfe** made a motion to close the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Miller** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

D.) NEW BUSINESS - None

E.) OLD BUSINESS – None

F.) COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

G.) QUESTIONS REGARDING RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED - None

H.) QUESTIONS REGARDING ORDINANCES SCHEDULED – None

I.) RESOLUTIONS

- **R:126-2020** Resolution Authorizing Closed Executive Session Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Discuss *Matters falling under pending litigation subject to Attorney-Client Privilege pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b(7)*

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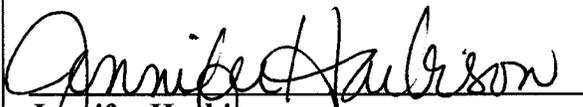
I.) RESOLUTIONS (cont'd)

Cncl. Pres. Marino advised that Resolution R:126-2020 will be tabled and moved to the Regular Council Meeting for motion to approve. **Cncl. Wolfe** made a motion to table and move Resolution R:126-2020 from the Work Session Meeting to the Regular Council Meeting of August 24, 2020. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

J.) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, **Cncl. Wolfe** made a motion to adjourn the Council Work Session of August 24, 2020. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Vice-Pres. O'Reilly** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Harbison

Deputy Municipal Clerk



Presiding Officer

These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the recorded proceedings, as well as hand-written notes taken, of the Council Work Session of August 24, 2020 and serve only as a synopsis of the proceedings. The official recording may be heard in the Office of the Township Clerk upon proper notification, pursuant to the Open Public Records Act.

Approved as submitted  _____
Approved as corrected _____

Date 9/14/2020
Date _____